

Appl. No. 09/837,020  
Amdt. Dated September 23, 2003  
Reply to Office Action of August 15, 2003

**PATENT APPLICATION**

***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

*entry approved by [signature] 10/1/03*

Group  
Art Unit: 3643

Attorney  
Docket No.: 121056-009 (new)

Applicant: Yasushi KOHNO et al.

Invention: METHOD OF PREVENTING DEFECTIVE  
GERMINATION OR GROWTH OF PLANT

Serial No: 09/837,020

Filed: April 18, 2001

Examiner: Andrea Valenti

**RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION**

**EXPEDITED PROCESSING REQUESTED**

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8()

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via facsimile transmission on the date indicated below.

on September 23, 2003

*Michael S. Gzybowski*  
Michael S. Gzybowski

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 CFR §1.116**

*suggest amendment be entered upon notice of appeal. 10/1/03*

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed August 15, 2003 in connection with the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.